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Records Of The Ancestry Of John Park Cravens

JUDGE J. PARK CRAVENS
County Court House
BOONEVILLE. ARK.



The Lines of
Direct Lineal Descent
And a Summary

22



By

JOHN PARK CRAVENS

BOONEVILLE, ARKANSAS

January 15, 1957

RECORDS OF THE ANCESTRY

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JOHN PARK CRAVENS

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Cravens, John Park

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Records of the Ancestry of John Park
Cravens

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Author
1957

RECORDS OF THE ANCESTRY OF JOHN PARK CRAVENS

THE HERNDON LINE

My father, Robert Russell Cravens, was the son of Elijah Randolph Cravens, native of Randolph County, North Carolina, and Mary Calhoun Rice Cravens, native of Charlotte County, Virginia. Mary Calhoun Rice Cravens, my father's mother, was the daughter of David Rice and Martha Herndon Brooks Rice, natives of Virginia.

Martha Herndon Brooks Rice, my great grandmother, was the daughter of James Brooks and Elizabeth Watkins Brooks. James Brooks was a man of extensive wealth, and the town of Alta Vista, Virginia, is located on lands that were once a part of his estate. His wife, Elizabeth Watkins Brooks, was the daughter of Benjamin Watkins, and Mildred Whitlock Watkins. Mildred Whitlock Watkins' father was Josiah Whitlock.

The parents of Benjamin Watkins were William Watkins and Martha Herndon Watkins. The parents of Martha Herndon Watkins were Edward Herndon and Mary Waller Herndon. The parents of Edward Herndon were William Herndon and Catherine Digges Herndon. Edward Herndon was born in New Kents County, Virginia, in 1678. In the year 1698 he married Mary Waller, daughter of Doctor John Waller, M. D., and Mary Promfrett Waller, who were born in England, and married in January, 1669, at Walton County Bucks, England, and later moved to America. Their daughter, Mary Waller Herndon, after several years following her marriage to Edward Herndon, died, and later he married Mary Leftwich, a member of a distinguished Virginia family.

William Herndon was a member of a noted family. He came from England to Virginia in the year 1649. His wife, Catherine Digges Herndon, was the daughter of Edward Digges, Governor of Virginia in 1665. From William Herndon, Governor Edward Digges, and the above named persons, with the exception of Mary Leftwich, I am a direct lineal descendant. Mary Leftwich was a blood relative of my great, great, great grandfather, James Brooks, Sr., of Virginia.

The families of Brooks, Watkins, Whitlock, Waller, Digges, Rice, Herndon, Leftwich and Promfrett, were of distinguished lineage, and many of their members were leaders of colonial times. Several were noted soldiers of the American Revolution. Doctor John G. Herndon of Pennsylvania, noted educator, genealogist and historian, and former President of The Pennsylvania Historical Society, is a direct lineal descendant of William Herndon, and is the author of several books about the history of the Herndons. Doctor Herndon is now an honorary president of The State of Pennsylvania Historical Society.

Mrs. M. Lee Watkins of Virginia, is a descendant of the Watkins line. Mrs. Watkins is the mother-in-law of Governor Chandler of Kentucky. Many of the distinguished citizens of America of today are descendants of the above named families of colonial times. William Herndon, the first of the Herndon line in America, was the descendant of a noted line in England, where the family was seated hundreds of years ago. The Herndon coat-of-arms is: "Argent, a heron volant, in fesse, azure, membered or, between three escallops sable." The motto is: "This Is the Way to Immortality."

THE LANE LINE

My mother, Blanche Lane Conner Cravens, was the daughter of Captain Asbury B. Conner, U. S. A., and Suzan Lane Harwell Conner. Mother was a native of the city of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and her grandparents on her mother's side were Vines Harwell, pioneer Attorney and Minister of the Gospel of Northern Georgia, and Mary Rebecca Lane Harwell. My great grandmother, Mary Rebecca Lane, was the daughter of Johnathan Lane, native of Wake County, North Carolina. His wife was Patience Rogers, daughter of Thos. Rogers, and Mary Duck, and a descendant of Giles Rogers.

The father of Johnathan Lane was Jesse Lane, native of North Carolina, and his mother was Winifred Aweck (sometimes pronounced Aycock) Lane. She was the daughter of Rebecca Pace, and was of Welsh descent.

Jesse Lane's father was Joseph Lane, Jr., and his mother was Patience McKinne, a daughter of Major Barnabas McKinne, Sr., and Mary Exum McKinne. Major McKinne was a Justice of the General Court of the Province, member of the Colonial Assembly, and a vestryman of the North West Parish of Bertie precinct or county, North Carolina in 1727.

Joseph Lane, Jr., was a native of Halifax County, North Carolina. His father was Colonel Joseph Lane, the second, High Sheriff of Edgecombe County, North Carolina, who was born in or near Jamestown, Virginia, in 1665. His wife was Julian Pope Lane. The father of Colonel Joseph Lane, the second, was Colonel Joseph Lane the first, who was born at Jamestown, Virginia. His wife was Ester Bryan. His father, Richard Lane, of Jamestown, Virginia, came over from England in 1618, two years before the landing of the Pilgrims and Puritans, and settled in Jamestown.

Richard Lane was a descendant of Sir Ralph Lane of England, who with Sir Walter Raleigh and Sir Richard Greenville, sailed from Plymouth, England in 1585, and formed (in what is now North Carolina) the colony of Roanoke, of which Lane became Governor, the first English Governor in America.

The father of Sir Ralph Lane, the first English Governor in America, was Sir Ralph Lane, of Orlingbury, whose wife, Nee Parr, was a first cousin of Catherine Parr, the sixth queen of King Henry VIII, Berkely Castle, Hereford, a Lane estate, and here was born Richard James Lane, artist. His uncle was the artist Gainsborough.

The name "Lane" was originally the Norman "De Lona" or "De Lone," and it entered England at the time of William the Conqueror.

My great great great great grandmother, Patience McKinne, had a brother John, who married Elizabeth Pope of Virginia, daughter of Nathaniel Pope, whose sister, Ann Pope, married John Washington, grandfather of General George Washington.

Jesse Lane, my great great great grandfather, and his father, Joseph Lane, Jr., were soldiers of the American Revolution. Jesse's son, John, fought with him in the American Revolution. John was the father of General Joseph Lane, one of America's outstanding military leaders. Jesse Lane and his son, Johnathan, (my great great grandfather), and Johnathan's son-in-law, David Lowery, built one of the First Methodist churches in Georgia with hand sawed logs.

Jesse Lane was a brother of Joel Lane, noted pioneer and patriot of Wake County, North Carolina, and prominent leader of the American Revolution. In the lobby of the Municipal Building of the city of Raleigh, North Carolina, is a bronze tablet which reads:

"In memory of JOEL LANE, a Colonial and Revolutionary Patriot who represented Wake County on the Committee of Safety and in the Provincial Congress, Constitutional Conventions, and Legislative As-

semblies of North Carolina. The City of Raleigh stands on his ancient Domain. He died on the 29th of March, 1795. Erected by the Bloomsbury Chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution, A. D., 1913."

The house in which Colonel Joel Lane lived, and which was built by him still stands, and is the oldest house in the city of Raleigh, North Carolina—much older than the city itself. On April 30, 1927, title to the property was acquired by the Colonial Dames of America. Title to the property is now in the name of the North Carolina Society of the Colonial Dames of America, and the Wake County Committee has supervision of the property.

Colonel Joel Lane was one of the first trustees of the University of North Carolina. During the darkest hours of the American Revolution, the General Assembly met at his house. He represented his country as Senator for fourteen years before his death on the 29th day of March, 1795.

My great great great grandfather, Jesse Lane, brother of Colonel Joel Lane, migrated from North Carolina to Northern Georgia. He was the father of sixteen children, eight sons and eight daughters. A few of his grandchildren are as follows:

David Swaim, Governor of North Carolina; President of Chappel Hill University; James Hary Rogers, Judge of Supreme Court, David Rice, Lieutenant, C. S. A., killed at Sharpsburg, U. S. Senator Joseph Bailey of Texas; D. M. Gudyer, Doctor, M. D.; Frederick Moore, Superior Court Judge; James Lowry, Lt. Colonel, C. S. A.; David Coleman, Colonel, C. S. A.; John Lane, Minister, married Miss Vick from whom Vicksburg, Mississippi, is named; Richard Luckie, Colonel, C. S. A.; Peyton Colquitt, Colonel C. S. A., killed at Battle of Chickamauga; Judge Walter T. Colquitt, Atlanta, Georgia; Martin D. Rogers, Methodist Minister, Texas Conference; David Lane Kendall, Surgeon, C. S. A.; Thomas Jefferson Rogers, Colonel C. S. A.; Lon Campbell, Missionary to China; Walter Moore, Colonel C. S. A., speaker of the House of Representatives, North Carolina.

Patience Lane, daughter of Jesse Lane, and sister of Jonathan Lane, married John Hart, son of Nancy Hart of Revolutionary fame and moved with his family to Kentucky. They were related to U. S. Senator Henry Clay.

My mother, Blance Lane Conner Cravens, was the namesake of her grandmother, Mary Lane Harwell, granddaughter of Jesse Lane. General Alfred Colquitt, Governor of Georgia, was related through the Lane line of ancestry, and a personal friend to the Lane family of which Mary Lane was a member.

The Lane family was seated at King's Brownley Hall, King's Brownley, near Litchfield and also at Chartyr Hay in County Stafford, England. Adam de Lone was living at Hampton at an early date, and Richard de la Lone was living at Hampton in the ninth year of Edward II. One of the most ancient of the Lane armorial Bearings is described as follows: (Burke, General Armory, 1884); Arms—"Gules, on a fesse wavy, between three swans argent, as many crosses formee, or."

The Heraldic description of the Lane coat of arms that can be found in almost any book on American heraldy is as follows: "Per fesse or and azure, a chevron gules, between three mullets, counter charged. On a canton of third three lions of England." CREST: "A strawberry roan horse, salient couped at the flanks, bridled sable, bitted and garnished or, supporting between the feet and imperial crown proper." MOTTO: "Garde le Roy."

Julian Pope, wife of Colonel Joseph Lane the Second, was a member of a distinguished family of Virginia. Ester Bryan, wife of Colonel Joseph Lane, the First, was also a member of a distinguished Virginia family.

THE RICE LINE

My father was Robert Russel Cravens, born at Jackson, Tennessee, in 1865. His mother was Mary Calhoun Rice Cravens, native of Charlotte County, Virginia. She was the daughter of David Rice, and Martha Herndon Brooks Rice. She was born at the plantation home of her parents.

David Rice was born at the home of his parents on the estate of the Rice family "South Isle," a great estate on the Staunton River of Southern Virginia. The wife of David Rice, Martha Herndon Brooks Rice, was born in Campbell County, Virginia, the daughter of James Brooks, one of the most wealthy citizens of the state, and the seat of his family was Brookneal, Virginia. His will is one of the longest recorded in the state. His father was a soldier of the American Revolution. His forefathers came to America from England, where the family was distinguished as leaders, and for their military services to the country. The family was then known as Brooke. My great grandfather, James Brooks, sprang from the same branch as Judge Francis Taliaferro Brooke, prominent officer in the American Revolution, who married Mary Randolph Spotswood, daughter of General Alexander Spotswood and Elizabeth Washington, who was a niece of General George Washington. The Rice plantation, the seat of my Rice forefathers of Virginia, was near Red Hill, the home of Patrick Henry, and John Cardwell, grandfather of the great Southern Statesman, John C. Calhoun. My grandmother, Mary Calhoun Rice Cravens, was a relative of John C. Calhoun, and a namesake of the Calhoun family. James Brooks' father, James Brooks, Sr., was a soldier of the American Revolution.

David Rice, my great grandfather, was born in the year 1799. He was the son of John Rice, and Anna Johns Rice of Charlotte County, Virginia. Anna Johns Rice was the daughter of Thomas Johns, plantation owner and prominent citizen of Virginia, and member of a noted family of the state. David Rice was the grandson of John Rice, Sr., and was closely related to Reverend John Holt Rice, pastor of the Cub Creek Presbyterian Church who was instrumental in the formation of Union Theological Seminary of Richmond, Virginia, but first at Hampden-Sydney College. The Reverend John Holt Rice was the nephew of the equally distinguished Reverend David Rice of Charlotte County, who was born in 1733 and died in 1816.

Thomas Rice, distinguished citizen of Charlotte County, died in 1796. His will was witnessed by my great great great grandfathers John Rice, and Thomas Johns, and by William Watkins, a descendant of my great great great great grandfather William Watkins. Cillar Rice, daughter of Thomas Rice, married John Cardwell. She was the grandmother of John C. Calhoun, the noted Southern statesman. My grandmother, Mary Calhoun Rice Cravens, was closely related to the Cardwell and Calhoun families, and she was named Mary Calhoun Rice in honor of John C. Calhoun's father's family.

There were many distinguished families by the name of Rice in Charlotte County, and other counties of Southern Virginia. They were among the first settlers to come from England, and all were closely related. Several were distinguished soldiers of the American Revolution. They were: Church of England, Episcopalians, and Presbyterians, and assisted in establishing several pioneer churches in America.

My line of descent is from William Rice, born in Wales in 1522. He was of Welsh blood, and the twenty-first in paternal descent from Vyran Reged, Lord of Kidwelly, Carunllon, and Yakenen, in South Wales, and his wife, Margaret La-Faye, daughter of Duke Golois of Cornwall. William's grandfather, Sir Griffith Rice, son and heir of Sir Rhys Ap-Thomas, was made a Knight of the Bath in 1501. The Coat of Arms borne by the family was granted to William in 1555. The family of William traces from William the Conqueror and his wife, Lady Maud of Flanders—on the maternal side. The line of descent is given as follows:

King Henry I, son of William the Conqueror, had issue by the Princess Matilda of Scotland of the Empress Maud of Germany, who begat by Geoffrey Plantagenet King Henry II, who had by his wife, the Princess Eleanor of Aquitaine, King John, who had issue by his wife, Lady Isabel de Taillefer, of King Henry III, who had by Lady Eleanor of Provence King Edward I, whose child by his wife, the Princess Margaret of France, was the Earl Thomas Plantagenet, who married Lady Alice Halys and had the Duches Margaret of Norfolk, who had by her husband, Lord Segrave, Lady Elizabeth de Segrave, who had by Lord Mowbray a son, Sir Thomas Mowbray, who had issue by his wife, Lady Elizabeth Fitz Allan, of Lady Marguerite De Mowbray, who married Sir John Howard and had Sir John Howard, K. G., who had by the Lady Katherine Molines Sir Thomas Howard, whose wife, Lady Agnes Tilney, gave him a daughter, Lady Catherine Howard, who married Rice Griffith, son of Griffith ap Rice, K. B. The issue of this marriage was William Rice, born in 1522.

One of the most ancient of the several coats of arms granted to the family of Rice is described in heraldic terms as follows: ARMS.—“Argent, a chevron ermines cotised sable, between three ravens of the last.” CREST.—“A lion rampant proper holding in his paw a bar-shot sable.” MOTTO.—“Cadarn-yw-fy-ffydd-y-portha-duw-y-gigfrain” (an ancient Welsh war cry).

My great grandparents, David Rice, and Martha Herndon Brooks Rice, were related to many families of Charlotte County, and other counties of Virginia. Some of the families names were as follows: Neal, Mealer, Calhoun, Palmer, Russell, Gaines, Bedford, Breedlove, Brizendriver, Marable, Rowlett, Parish, Edmund Morton, White, McGargo, Kersey, McGraw, Ragland, Poage, Perkinson, Moseley, Hartwell, Baldwin, Garrington, Bruce, Spencer, Holt Hannah Garnette Hancock, Hutcheson, Harvey, McKinney, Vaughan, Leftwich, Bouldin, Worsham, LeGrande, Stubblefield, Brock, Drysdale, Haley, Clarke, Pettus, Lipscomb, Lincoln, Randolph, and others.

My great grandparents, David and Martha Herndon Brooks Rice, sold their plantation home in Charlotte County Virginia about the year 1850, and with their children moved to Henderson County, Tennessee. At the outbreak of the War Between the States in 1861, four of their sons joined the ranks of the Confederate forces. Colonel Joseph Herndon Rice, M. D., served with the Confederate forces in Missouri, and died while in the service. Captain John Rice was Commander of a Confederate Company of Henderson County men, that fought throughout the war under the command of the great calvary leader, General Nathan B. Forrest. Captain Johns brother, Attorney Frank Rice, was a lieutenant of the company. William Rice, a younger brother, was also a member. The company was noted for its bravery, and was one of General Forrest's favorites.

My great grandfather, Colonel David Rice, was a slave owner at the outbreak of the war. My grandmother, Mary Calhoun Rice Cravens, died when I was twenty-one years of age, in 1921. Grandmother often talked to me about her family history, and the War Between the North and the South. In discussing the war she would shed tears about the deaths of ones dear to her heart, the sacrifices, hardships and after effects in the days of reconstruction. I will never forget when I asked her to tell me about General Picketts charge at the Battle of Gettysburg, and how sad she was as she told me of three companies from Charlotte County, Virginia, her native home county, were in this charge, and were practically wiped out. She said that most of the members of the companies were of blood relation to her, as were many members of other companies from various Virginia counties that were engaged in the battle.

Dear to my heart are my memories of my grandmother, Mary Calhoun Rice Cravens. The War Between the States caused her people to lose their fortunes, and it greatly changed their ways of life. I never heard of grandmother complaining about this, or speak ill of anybody,

and she was loved by all who knew her. She was generous, brave and pure in heart. Before her death I attended a reunion of the United Confederate Veterans at Memphis, Tennessee as an active Confederate Brigadier General on the staff of the Commandr in Chief. When I left my home at Magazine, Arkansas, for the city of Memphis, my grandmother asked me to get in touch with an old slave who would be at the reunion. Her father, Colonel David Rice, had been the old slaves master until the end of the War Between the States. For many years until my grandmother's death, the old slave had kept in touch with several of his white folks. I met with the old fellow at the Confederate reunion at Memphis, and we had many talks. It would greatly sadden me when he would tell how he dearly loved his white folks, and the days of the past before the War Between the States swept their fortunes away, and so greatly changed the ways of his life, and the world about him. Many times he told me that he would often cry about his white folks, and long for the days that had gone by when he was one of my great grandfather Rice's slaves. The last time I saw him he told me to tell my grandmother he would meet her in heaven where he hoped to meet all his white folks. Among my personal friends of The United Confederate Veterans organization were General Harry Rene Lee of Nashville, Tennessee, General John W. Harris of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, General M. D. Vance of Little Rock, Arkansas, and General B. W. Green of Little Rock, Arkansas and officers of other ranks.

THE CRAVEN LINE

My forefathers always spelled their name "Craven" until my grandfather Elijah Randolph Craven moved to Arkansas from Tennessee. Relatives who had preceeded my grandfather to Arkansas spelled their family name "Cravens," with the exception of two related families that did not add the "s" to their name. In ancient English and early American records is the various spellings of Cravens, Crauen, Cravan, Cravin, Cravene, Cravon, Cravins, Craven and others.

My grandfather, Elijah Randolph Craven, was born in Henderson County, Tennessee, in 1835. He was the son of Tinsley W. Craven and Mary Vanderford Craven, who were born in Randolph County, North Carolina, and moved with their parents from North Carolina to Tennessee. My grandfather, Elijah Randolph Craven, married my grandmother, Mary Calhoun Rice Craven, native of Charlotte County, Virginia, at Jackson, Tennessee, in 1864. In the War Between the States, my grandfather Craven served during the entire war under the direct command of General Nathan B. Forrest, the noted Confederate calvary general. Grandfather Craven was several times wounded in battle. The parents of his mother, Mary Vanderford Craven, were natives of Pennsylvania, and moved from this state to Randolph County, North Carolina, where Mary Vanderford was born in 1804. Mary Vanderford's forefathers came to Pennsylvania from Holland to the first colony William Penn founded in that state. Her forefathers were of Dutch origin and descent.

My great grandfather, Tinsley W. Craven, was born in Randolph County, North Carolina in 1802. He died at Lexington, Tennessee, in 1860. He was a Methodist Minister of the Gospel, and a prominent citizen of Henderson County for many years before his death. Two of his brothers were citizens of Missouri for many years before their deaths. Carolina Cravens, closely related to him, moved to Indiana, Iowa, Oregon, and California. Other relatives moved to Tennessee and Arkansas. The Robert Cravens House, a shrine near Chattanooga, Tennessee, was the home of a relative during the War Between the States. It was in the center of the "Battle Above the Clouds."

In 1872, when my father, Robert Russell Cravens was seven years of age, he moved with his parents from Jackson, Tennessee, to Cravens, a small village in Franklin County, Arkansas. My grandfather Cravens was a relative of U. S. Congressman Jordan Cravens of Clarksville, Arkansas. He also had relatives at Fort Smith, Fayetteville and other

places in Western Arkansas. After living in Franklin County, Arkansas, for three years he moved with his family to South Logan County, Arkansas, where he died in 1906, and my grandmother Cravens died in 1921. Their graves are in the Ellington cemetery north of Magazine, Arkansas.

The name of CRAVEN is derived from the residence of its first bearers in the district of Craven, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, England. Chiefly seated in early times in Yorkshire, the family also resided in Gloucestershire, Shropshire, Worchestershire, Berkshire, and in London. These lines belonged to the landed and educated classes of the British Isles.

The earliest definite records of the name in England include those of Paulinus or Paul de Cravens, who was recorded as a "freeman" of York as early as the year 1294 A. D.; those of Robert D. Craven, Rector of Bolton, near Bowland, in Yorkshire, in 1304; those of Agnes and Johannes or John de Craven, of Yorkshire, in 1379; and those of Roger de Crauen or Craven, of the same place and period.

In the reign of King Henry VII (circa 1485-1507) one John Craven was resident at Appletree-wick, Craven, in the County of York. He was the father of a son named William, who married Beatrix, daughter of John Hunter, and had issue by her of Henry, Anthony, and Sir William Craven.

Henry Craven, eldest of the last-mentioned brothers, resided at Appletree-wick and was the father of a son named Robert, who married Mary Brockden and died in 1659. His children were Henry, Sir William, Sr., Thomas, Robert, John, Sir Anthony, and Margaret. Of these, Henry died young; Sir William resided at Lenchwike, in the County of Worcester, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Ferdinand, Lord Fairfax, of Scotland, but left only female issue; Sir Thomas married Anne, daughter of Francis Proctor, and died in 1682, leaving only one son, Sir William, and several daughters, Mary, Alice, and Margaret; Robert and John died unmarried; and Sir Anthony settled in Berkshire, but died in 1670, leaving no issue by his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of the Baron Pelnets, of Mark, Germany.

Sir William Craven, only son of Sir Thomas and Anne (nee Proctor), was titled Lord Craven, of Hampsted-Marshall, in the latter half of the seventeenth century. He married Mary, daughter of Sir Christopher Clapham, before 1668 and had issue by her of William, second Lord Craven, as well as of Thomas, John, Robert, Christopher, Anthony, Henry, and Charles. William, second Lord Craven, was elected Lord Palatine of the province of Carolina, in America, about the beginning of the eighteenth century. By his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Humberston Skipwith, he was the father of William, Fulwar, and Robert, of whom the first left no male issue and was succeeded as Lord Craven by his brother Fulwar, who died without issue in 1764. At this time the title and dignity of Lord Craven devolved upon William, eldest son of John Craven, brother to William, second Lord Craven.

Of the younger brothers of William, second Lord Craven, Thomas died young; John married Maria Rebecca, daughter of Henry Green, of Warwickshire, and had issue by her of William (fifth Lord Craven), John, Henry, Thomas, Dorothy, and Maria Rebecca; while Charles was Governor of Carolina (1712-1716) in the reign of Queen Anne and died in 1754, leaving issue by his wife, Elizabeth Staples, of three sons, Charles, John, and Robert. William, fifth Lord Craven, married Jane, daughter of Rowland Berkeley, of Worcestershire, but had no issue and was by his nephew William, son of his brother, John Craven, by his wife, Mary Hickee. The last mentioned William married Lady Elizabeth Berkeley, by whom he was the father of Elizabeth, Maria, Margareta, William, Georgiana, Henry Augustus, and Keppel.

Anthony Craven, second son of the first William of Appletree-wick, had a son named Thomas, who married Margaret Craven and was the father by her of Sir William, Sir Robert and Sir Anthony. Sir William Craven, third son of the first William of Appletree-wick, was Sheriff

of London in 1601, and Lord Mayor in 1611. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Whitmore of London, and was the father by her of William, John, Thomas, Mary and Elizabeth. Of these, William was the first Baron and Earl Craven, which honors he won by his valiant service in the Netherlands and Germany, under Henry, Prince of Orange. He died without issue and was succeeded by his brother, John, who was advanced to the dignity of Lord Cravens of Ryton, in Shropshire, in 1642. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William, Lord Spencer. Charles Craven, Governor of South Carolina, 1712-1716, was a nephew of William 2nd.

Sir William Craven, the first, was born in 1550 and died in 1616. He was educated at Trinity College, Oxford, where his son, John, endowed a scholarship still existing. Sir William's son, William the second, was a friend of three kings, James 1st, Charles 2nd and James 2nd. In 1627 he was Knighted by the King, and elevated to the Peerage by Charles 2nd. He had no children. William the Third was the son of John the son of William the First, and he had no children. William the Third had a brother, John, who was the father of William the Fourth.

Robert Craven, son of William the Fourth, came to America in 1732 and settled in Pennsylvania. He had a brother named John, who came to America at the same time, and located in Randolph County, North Carolina, and at this time some of their Craven relatives came to America and located in Craven County, South Carolina, and others had previously located in Pennsylvania and Virginia. I am a direct lineal descendant of Robert Craven. My great great grandfather Craven moved from Pennsylvania to Randolph County, North Carolina, where my great grandfather Craven was born in 1802. Ben Cravens, prominent Attorney and U. S. Congressman of Fort Smith, was a relative of my father. They were close personal friends from the days of their youths until my father's death. Ben Craven's father, Attorney William Cravens, was a close friend of my father, and my grandfather Cravens. Attorney William Cravens was a Colonel in the Confederate Army in the War Between the States.

My father and mother were married at Golden City, Arkansas, in 1886. For several years they were residents of Sebastian County, Arkansas, then moved to Magazine, in Logan County, Arkansas in 1899, where they resided until their deaths. While a resident of Sebastian County, my father was a personal friend of Federal Judge Parker, the Judge noted for sentencing many men to their deaths. Father also spoke of Judge Parker as a jurist of distinction, a religious and God fearing man who deserved no criticism for his court decisions.

My father's full name was Robert Russell Cravens. He was named for his great great grandfather Craven of Pennsylvania, and Colonel Russell of Virginia, noted officer of The American Revolution. My father's grandfather, Tinsley W. Craven, born in Randolph County, North Carolina, had many Craven relatives living throughout the county. Among them was the Randolphs from whom Randolph County was named, and my grandfather, Elijah Randolph Cravens namesake.

The Craven coat of arms of the English family of Craven is: "Or, five fleurs-de-lis in cross sable, a chief wavy gules." The motto: "Bravery Consists In Action."

THE HARWELL LINE

My mother, Blanche Lane Conner Cravens, was the daughter of Suzan Lane Harwell whose parents were Vines Harwell and Mary Rebecca Lane Harwell of Georgia. Vines Harwell was a Methodist preacher, and noted pioneer Attorney of Northern Georgia. His wife, my great grandmother, was Mary Rebecca Lane, a granddaughter of Jesse Lane, brother of the Revolutionary leader, Joel Lane, on whose estate the state house grounds, and the state University of North Carolina was located on. Mary Rebecca Lane was a college graduate.

My grandmother, Suzan Lane Harwell Conner, was born in Georgia March 11, 1843, and died at Golden City, Arkansas September 6, 1880.

Her grave is in the Wolverton cemetery near Golden City in Western Arkansas, town now extinct. Grandmother's father, Vines Harwell, was the son of Jackson Harwell, and Martha Fretwell Harwell, descendants of two old and distinguished families of Virginia. Jackson Harwell was a noted Methodist preacher and choister, who was known as "Old Hundred" because of the 100 great camp meetings he had held in Georgia. His parents were Samuel Harwell, and Mary Jackson Harwell of Virginia. Samuel Harwell was a descendant of Sir Edmund Harwell of England. High Sheriff during Queen Elizabeth's reign, and a man of great wealth.

Martha Fretwell Harwell, my great great grandmother, was the daughter of Richard Fretwell, native of Virginia, who moved from his native state Virginia to Georgia in 1789. He died in Newton County, Georgia in 1843. He was a soldier of the Revolution, and was born in Virginia in 1752. His old homestead is located about three miles from Oxford, Georgia. The U. S. Government, under auspices of the Sergeant Newton Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Covington, Georgia, in 1939, placed a marker over the spot believed to be near his grave. His wife, Mary Witherspoon, my great great great grandmother, was a native of Virginia, and a descendant of two families who came from England to Virginia before the American Revolution.

I have a copy of the will of Richard Fretwell in which he willed his slaves and land. His father was William Fretwell of Cumberland County, Virginia, who died in 1788, and his mother was Mary Fretwell. William Fretwells will is recorded in Cumberland County. He was a land and slave owner.

Mary Jackson Harwell, the mother of my great great grandfather, Jackson Harwell, was closely related to the family of General "Stonewall" Jackson, and the General was personally acquainted with the Harwell brothers, Vines, Richard and Ransom and their families of Georgia. The late Judge Frank Harwell of the Georgia State Supreme Court, was a descendant of Jackson Harwell and his wife, Martha Fretwell Harwell. My grandmother, Suzan Lane Harwell, was a first cousin of Alfred Colquitt, a great Governor of Georgia. Grandmother had two brothers, Stirling and Richard Harwell, twins, who were noted Methodist preachers of Georgia. They were students of old Emory College of Oxford, Georgia, and after their deaths Bishop Haygood, long time president of the college and noted Methodist Bishop, paid a tribute to their memory. The Harwell twin preachers were tall men and gifted orators, and their deaths occurred a few days apart. The outstanding tribute paid their careers by Bishop Haywood, nationally known churchman, is of permanent record.

My grandmother, Suzan Lane Harwell Conner's father, Vines Harwell, Methodist preacher and attorney of Northern Georgia, was one of the outstanding leaders of his time in that state. He and his wife, Mary Rebecca Lane Harwell, were the parents of twelve children, and my grandmother was the twelfth and youngest child. Among the children were two sets of twins. Two sons were killed in the War Between the States. Many of the leading citizens of Georgia, and other states, are descendants of Jackson Harwell and his wife, Martha Fretwell Harwell, my great great grandparents. The Baldwins, Chastains and Meeks of Western Arkansas, and other states, are among these descendants. Descendants by the name of Park are related to the Park family of North Carolina, which Mr. John A. Park, editor and publisher of the Raleigh Times, is a member of. For a lengthy period during past years, Mr. Parks and me corresponded. I value his letters very much.

Vines Harwell, my great grandfather, was an officer of the American forces in the War of 1812. The Harwell family coat of arms and

family motto are among the ancestral records of a relative of mine, who resides in Virginia. I expect to enter them into my records in the near future.

Oscar Coulter, who killed Charles Maysey in a gun duel at Golden City, Arkansas in the year 1890, was a first cousin of my mother, and a nephew of my grandmother, Suzan Lane Harwell Conner. Charles Maysey was a first cousin of my mother, and a nephew of my grandfather, Captain Asbury B. Conner. Coulter was tried for murder at Paris, Arkansas, after being captured in the Indian Territory by U. S. Marshall Heck Thomas of Fort Smith. The trial was one of the most outstanding murder trials in pioneer Arkansas history. One of the ancestors of Oscar Coulter was a chief of the Cherokee Indians of Georgia.

THE CONNER LINE

My mother was Blanche Lane Conner Cravens, born in the city of Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 1872, and died at Magazine, Arkansas, in 1948. My mother's father was Captain Asbury B. Conner, born in Cocke County, Tennessee in 1824, and died at Magazine, Arkansas in 1901.

My grandfather, Captain Asbury B. Conner was the son of James Conner, who was born in the Newberry District of South Carolina, and moved with his parents to Cocke County, Tennessee about the year 1800, and married Mary Carpenter, native of Virginia. Mary Carpenter, my great grandmother, was the daughter of Euphemia Penelope Carpenter, and Nathaniel Carpenter of Virginia, who were members of two prominent colonial families that were of English and Scotch descent. Some members of these families were Soldiers of the American Revolution.

My great great great grandfather was Charles Conner, descendant of Hugh O'Connor of Ireland. He changed his name from "O'Connor" to "Conner" because the latter was most used in persons addressing him, speaking of him and writing to him. The Conner families of the Newberry District, South Carolina, were very prominent during colonial times. Maxmillan Haney Conner, a cousin of my great grandfather Conner, has heirs in Tennessee who have an old school teaching contract signed by him which was drawn up in the Newberry District of South Carolina during pioneer days. From the year 1795 to the year 1810 some related Conner families of the Newberry District moved to Cocke County, Tennessee.

My grandfather, Asbury B. Conner, born in Cocke County, Tennessee in 1824, had five brothers, Samuel, William, Wesley, Haney and Thomas, and a sister, Penelope. Their father died when my grandfather was seventeen years of age. At the death of his father, my grandfather left his home in Cocke County, and made his way afoot across the Great Smokey Mountains to a mission to the Cherokee Indians located in now Hamilton County, Tennessee, where he secured work. Later he returned to his home in Cocke County for a visit, and then brought back his sister, Penelope, with him, and she married John Vale, the missionary to the Indians helper. Later, my grandfather Conner bought a land claim in Sequatchie Valley, and his brothers with their mother left Cocke County, and came to Hamilton County, in which Chattanooga is the county seat, and settled on lands and established their homes. Conner relatives from Cocke County also become the owners of Hamilton County land tracts, and tracts of adjoining counties, and built their homes on the tracts that they improved and made into ideal farms.

Doctor Samuel Conner, M. D., brother of my grandfather Conner, was a prominent practicing physician of Hamilton County. He was struck and killed by lightning at his home. My mother's oldest brother, Judge Sam Conner of Chattanooga, was his namesake. Judge Conner served as Sheriff of Hamilton County for six years, and was a prominent political leader of East Tennessee. John Emory Conner, a first cousin

of my mother, served as Sheriff of Hamilton County, and was Postmaster of the city of Chattanooga during President Woodrow Wilson's administrations.

My grandfather Conner's first wife was Elizabeth Tyler Maysey. Her sister, Jane Maysey, married grandfather's brother, Wesley Conner. The Maysey sisters had a brother, William Maysey, who married my grandfather Conner's sister, Amanda. The Maysey sisters and their brother's parents died when they were small children, and General Newman, a relative, raised them. General Newman was a member of President Andrew Jackson's cabinet. The old Newman marker is two miles South of the Conner estate sites of Chattanooga, Hamilton County, and is marked by the Daughters of the American Revolution. My grandfather Conner's first wife, Elizabeth Tyler Maysey Conner, was a great niece of General Montgomery of War of the American Revolution fame.

The old home place of my grandfather, Asbury B. Conner, and his brothers Wesley and Samuel are now a part of the city of Chattanooga. Asbury Drive, Conner Street, and Conner Additions, are a part of the city. Elizabeth Tyler Maysey Conner, my grandfather Conner's first wife, died at Chattanooga, and was buried at Brainerd cemetery. My grandfather's second wife, Susan Lane Harwell Conner, my grandmother, was a native of Georgia. Grandfather made her acquaintance at a Methodist conference in Northern Georgia, where she was in attendance with her father, Vines Harwell, noted Methodist preacher and attorney of Georgia. At this time my grandfather Conner was a citizen of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and sheriff of the County. Susan Lane Harwell, my grandmother, was a first cousin of the famous six Coulter brothers, the tall men of Walker County, Georgia, who were known in the city of Chattanooga as "The Coulter Giants From Georgia." They often visited in my grandfather Conner's home in Chattanooga. When my mother was a small child she would spend the summer months at her parents summer home on Lookout mountain near Chattanooga. The Coulter boys would move the family in wagons from their home in Chattanooga to the summer home on the top of the mountain. The teams would often have to stop and rest while going up the mountain, and mother said that the Coulter boys instead of placing a rock under the wagon wheels as a scotch, they would use their feet instead. They were proud and fearless men with seemingly unlimited strength. One of them served as Sheriff of Walker County, Georgia. James Coulter, one of the six Coulter brothers, age 86, visited in my home several years ago.

My mother's youngest brother was Thomas Wesley Conner, who was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and moved with his parents to South Logan County, Arkansas, when he was three years of age. At the age of twenty he became a practicing attorney of Oklahoma City and Hobart, Oklahoma. He became a noted criminal lawyer, and was a power in pleading in behalf of his clients before the courts. He was known as one of the state's most brilliant men, and he served as District State Attorney of a Western Oklahoma judicial district.

The surname of CONNER or CONNOR is derived from the Irish O'Conchobhar or O'Conchobhair, meaning "Of the family of the Counselor or Helper," and is taken from the words conn, meaning "wisdom, counsel," and cobhair or cobhar, meaning "help, aid." some writers, however, have translated the name as "The Helping Warrior" or "Endowed with Strength." Sometimes, too, the name was given to its first bearers because of their occupation as coiners of money. In these cases, it was a variant of the English Cuner. In ancient records the name appears in the various forms of Cunerer, Cunator, Cuner, Cunner, Cunnor, Coner, Coner, Connour, O'Coner, O'Conor, O'Conner, O'Connor, Conner, and Connor. Of these, the two spellings last mentioned are those most frequently in evidence in America today.

Families bearing this name were seated in early times in the English Counties of Cambridge, Oxford, Bedford, Huntingdon, and London, as well as in the Irish Counties of Cork, Kerry, Dublin, King's, Queen's,

Londonderry, and Roscommon. The Irish lines I descended from belonged to the ancient nobility of that country, while in England the family was chiefly of the merchant class.

It is part of the family tradition that the Irish lines of the Connor or Conner family are descended from Japheth, of the year 3270 B. C., who was in the eleventh generation of descent from Adam. This line is believed to have been represented in the tenth century of the Christian Era by one Conchobhair or Conchobhar (Connor), who was the fortieth Christian king of Connaught and died in the year 973 A. D. Conchobhar was the father of Charles O'Conchobhair or O'Connor, from whom are supposed to be descended all of the various branches of the family in Ireland. Many of them dropped the prefix "O" in early times.

I am a descendant of Charles O'Connor, mentioned above. O'Connor descendants came to America before the American Revolution, and several served as officers of the American Revolutionary Armies. The records of the Conners and Connors and O'Connors in America is that of an energetic, fearless, straight-thinking race, of high integrity and of considerable intellectual ability which has been shown particularly in the fields of statecraft, law, medicine, and the church, according to one of America's foremost genealogists.

My grandmother, Suzan Lane Harwell Conner died at Golden City, Arkansas, in 1880 and was buried in the Wolverton cemetery which was located near the town of Golden City, now extinct. The town of Golden City was built because of a gold strike. The town had a short life because the quantity of gold was insufficient for mining purposes. My mother was a first cousin of Emma Wolverton whose father-in-law donated the ground for the Wolverton cemetery which was named for him, and is sometimes called Golden City cemetery erroneously. Mr. Wolverton was a Western Arkansas pioneer and the Wolverton cemetery named for him was several years older than the town of Golden City.

The description of the O'Connor of Ireland coats-of-arms is as follows: "Vert, a lion rampant double queved and crowned or."

As a Conner descendant I wish to give my cousin, Honorable Haney Berlin Conner of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, prominent mention. Mr. Haney was born in Hamilton County, Tennessee, and was educated at Baylor University School of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Washington and Lee University of Lexington, Virginia. Mr. Conner for several years was a bank president of Louisiana, and political leader of that state. He is now an official of the Louisiana State Banking Department with offices in the state capitol building. He is a brother of Major John W. Conner of Daytona Beach, Florida, and his daughter is a resident of the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The site of his Conner ancestral home is on Look-out Mountain near the city of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

SUMMARY

My parents, Robert Russell Cravens, and Blanche Lane Conner Cravens, had ancestral backgrounds that were outstanding, and they were justly proud of their direct lines of lineal descent. My mother's father, Captain Asbury B. Conner, moved with his family from Chattanooga, Tennessee, to Golden City, Arkansas, in the year 1878. For several years he had been active in East Tennessee politics. He located his family on a tract of land near Golden City. On the tract was a mountain gap that is now known as Conner's Gap. Grandfather's children by his first wife, Elizabeth Maysey Conner, were Electa, Matthew, Elizabeth, and Charles. His children by his second wife, Suzan Lane Harwell Conner, my grandmother, were Samuel Asbury, Blanche Lane, Bessie, Jennie, Ida, and Thomas Wesley. All have passed away.

In the year 1880, when my mother was eight years of age, my grandmother Conner died at the family home near Golden City, Arkansas. Later my mother lived for three years at Fort Smith, Arkansas, with her Aunt and Uncle, Franklin M. Meek and his wife, Mary Harwell Meek,

and was a student of Old Belle Point School. Franklin M. Meek was a building contractor and one of the city of Fort Smith's prominent pioneer citizens. Among his descendants are some highly successful citizens.

In the year 1888 my father and mother were married at Golden City, Arkansas, where they resided for a year after their marriage. Then they moved to Magazine, Arkansas, a town located near the Great Mount Magazine, the highest peak between the Rocky and Allegheny mountains. My father was a clerk in the store of Charles Anderson, pioneer druggist of Magazine. Mr. Anderson was a son of Captain Pinkney Anderson, and a grandson of Judge Nathan Ellington, famous pioneer Arkansas Jurist who was a native of Virginia. One of the sons of Judge Ellington was Captain William Ellington, noted military leader of the United States forces that operated out of Fort Smith in the War between the North and South. Two of Captain Ellington's sons, Charles A. and C. B. Ellington, married Willie Cravens and Mattie Cravens, sisters of my father. Their brother, Jurd Ellington, druggist of Booneville, Arkansas, married a sister of Judge Jephtha A. Evans, noted Western Arkansas jurist and attorney. Charles A. Ellington owned and operated stores at Magazine, Arkansas, and in the state of Oklahoma. C. B. Ellington, in connection with his brothers John Buck and Omer Ellington, prominent business men of Muskogee, Oklahoma, owned and operated a store at Webbers Falls, Oklahoma. My mother's oldest brother, Mat Conner, married Vena Elkins, daughter of Doctor Elkins, M. D., pioneer druggist and land owner of Magazine. They had two sons, Omer and Birt, who for many years were members of the mechanical staff of the Southwest Times Record newspaper of Fort Smith, Arkansas.

In the year 1892 my parents moved from Magazine, Arkansas, Logan County, to Sebastian County. In 1899 they moved back to Magazine, where I was born October 4, 1899. At the age of five I enrolled as a pupil of the Old Magazine High School. This school was located one block from my home.

J. O. Kincannon was superintendent, and later served 24 years as Circuit Judge of the Arkansas Fifteenth Judicial District of Arkansas. He is now an attorney of Fort Smith. The late John D. Arbuckle of Fort Smith, and Attorney General of Arkansas, was superintendent prior to J. O. Kincannon. At the age of six, I enrolled in the New Magazine Grade School, and numbered among my teachers were Miss Annie Arbuckle, sister of John D. Arbuckle, Attorney Al G. Nichols of Wewoka, Oklahoma, J. Earl Berry, Baxter Durham, Pearl Lee, Arthur Skinner, Miss Mattie Childress and Miss Leona Ellington, granddaughter of Judge Nathan Ellington.

At this time my father was operating a business in the town of Magazine, and a farm located a mile from our home. Father took an active part in city, county, and state politics and for many years was an officer of the law. At this time my oldest brother, Horace Palmer Cravens, was a student of Magazine Ouachita Academy of Magazine. Among his instructors were General J. C. Compere, Attorney of Little Rock, and Arthur J. Vestal, retired oil capitalist of Arkadelphia. Among his class mates and boyhood pals were General Elgan C. Robinson, President of the First National Bank of Marianna, Arkansas, Allen G. Nichols, Attorney of Wewoka, Oklahoma, Doctor Thomas Moon, M. D., of Miami, Oklahoma, J. F. K. Bass, Attorney of Sallisaw, Oklahoma, Herbert H. Darks, Attorney of Wetumka, Oklahoma, James Earl Berry, banker of Smackover, Arkansas, W. S. Daniel, Realtor of Little Rock, Arkansas, and others.

In the year 1910, I was ten years of age, and attending school, working on my father's farm and in a grocery and feed store he and a partner operated. My oldest brother, Horace Palmer Cravens, was a student of Ouachita College of Arkadelphia, Arkansas, and among his class mates and personal friends were C. Hamilton Moses of Little Rock, President of the Arkansas Power and Light Company, and Doctor Doak

Campbell, President of Florida State University. My brother later assisted George Rule, postmaster of Lonoke, Arkansas, in the publishing of his newspaper. Mr. Rule was a brother-in-law of U. S. Senator Joe T. Robinson. My brother resided at the home of Senator Robinson's parents. He became a close personal friend of the Senator who took a personal interest in his ambitions. In September, 1911, my brother married Maude Dupree Frisby, a class mate of Ouachita College. Maude Dupree Frisby was the daughter of E. H. Frisby, prominent citizen of Malvern, Arkansas.

Soon after the marriage of my brother he became the owner, editor, and publisher of the Magazine Gazette of Magazine, Arkansas. He purchased the newspaper printing plant and a home from G. B. Dewees. I began working in my brother's printing plant what time I was not working on my father's farm, and attending school. Miss Minnie Pennington, an employee in the printing plant, taught me how to set type. My brother taught me the use of the printing presses, engines, and other things pertaining to job printing, the printing, publishing and editing of a newspaper, and other things necessary in the operation of his printing plant. Brother and his wife were like a second father and mother to me. In 1915, when I was fifteen years of age, I was elected as a page in the Arkansas House of Representatives, Arden P. Blaylock, my boyhood friend and school mate, also was elected as a page, and later became one of Arkansas' greatest preachers and evangelists. January 1, 1918, my brother leased his newspaper and printing plant to me, and I became the youngest editor and publisher in the state of Arkansas. My brother had been appointed U. S. Postmaster of Magazine. Later I volunteered my services as a member of the U. S. Armed Forces of World War One, and I am now a member of the American Legion, and the Disabled American Veterans, and am a service connected disabled veteran.

February 20, 1920, my brother, Horace Palmer Cravens, died with influenza-pneumonia at his home at Magazine, Arkansas. At the time of his death he was U. S. Postmaster of Magazine, and was on a deal to sell his newspaper and job printing plant, and his home. He was planning to move to Little Rock, Arkansas, at the expiration of his term as postmaster, and become a member of one of the leading law firms of Arkansas. He was one of the most beloved citizens of Western Arkansas, and was widely known as a man of ability and integrity. Although he was only twenty-nine years of age at the time of his death, he was known over the state as a leader, and he had accomplished much in such a short span of life. His death was a great personal loss to me. Many of his friends believed he would have risen to great heights of success had he lived. His wife, Maude Dupree Frisby Cravens, died in the year 1933 at McAllen, Texas. She was greatly devoted to my brother, an ideal wife, an accomplished woman of culture, and mourned the death of her husband until her passing. Precious is she, and my brother in my memories.

I graduated from Magazine Academy, and later graduated from Arkansas University High School. I was given a Magazine Industrial Institute honorary degree by its founders, Colonel Charles E. Scott, E. M. Bartlett and Reverend Arden P. Blaylock. This institute was a Junior College located at Magazine, Arkansas, and now extinct. During years past I have written many tales, poems, editorials and feature stories that have been published, and some broadcast by radio. Several million readers, and radio listeners of my writings have brought me much pleasure down through the years, and I treasure the thousands of letters I have received from Americans, and people of foreign lands, about my writings. In the year 1925, I chose Oklahoma City for my home, and left Arkansas University where I was a student, for this city, where I planned to pursue a business career. After living in Oklahoma City for several weeks, I abandoned my plan and returned to my

native home because of the condition of my health which has been a handicap to me since I served in the armed forces of the United States during World War One.

In the year 1915 my father made a tour of the State of Kansas for the purpose of selecting and buying some registered cattle to add to his cattle herd on his lands Northeast of the town of Magazine, Arkansas. He was a leader in the development, and growth of his section of the state. He would always take a stand on all public issues, and was fearless in fighting any force he did not think was standing for the right. His requested epitaph on his tombstone was: "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." He was an aggressive and fearless leader, and his battles for what he believed was right and just he would never compromise or surrender. "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."—Second Timothy, Chapter Four, Verse Seven.

At the age of sixteen I began the study of law, and continued my studies for several years until I abandoned my plan to be an attorney.

The children of my parents, now living, are: Rabert D. Cravens, Oklahoma City, Mrs. Mary Sue Howell, Wichita, Kansas, Mrs. Ruth Roberts, Houston, Texas, R. Jeff Cravens, Dallas, Texas, Mrs. Marguerite Nevius, Orlando Florida, and John Park Cravens, Booneville, Arkansas. Robert D. Cravens, President of R. D. Cravens Company and other companies, operates the Cravens Office Building and other valuable properties of Oklahoma City, and the Cravens Ranch located near the city. R. Jeff Cravens is a business executive of the city of Dallas.

To write the history of my ancestors, and my memoirs complete is one of my greatest desires, and I plan to sometime do this in the future. Always in my dearest memories will be my little brother, Samuel Edward Cravens, who died at the home of his parents at Magazine, Arkansas, February 10, 1917, at the age of seven. Sammy was the baby of the family. A few weeks before his death, I prepared to leave home for Little Rock where I would be an employee of the Arkansas State Legislature at the State House. My brother Sammy began to cry. Although I was only a boy seventeen years of age, I thought of him as a brother much older in years would. I realized he did not want me to leave home because he loved me, and he was crying with a broken heart, and I just could not stand to leave him in such a condition, and it was impossible to hold back my tears. I was carrying an open faced watch and chain, and I told Sammy I would give them to him if he would not cry anymore. He did not want to take them as a gift, and said he would not cry anymore if his crying made me sad, but I knew the greatest desire of his little heart was to have a watch and chain, and on my strongly insisting, he accepted my gift, and for the time being was elated, and stopped crying. But when I told him goodbye I could see tears in his eyes, and later my mother wrote me he wept for sometime after I had gone, but the watch and chain I had given him he admired very much, and often spoke of me in terms of love and appreciation for my giving them to him, and he was anxious for the time to come when I would come home to stay.

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One morning four weeks after I left my home at Magazine, Arkansas, Judge Louis Josephs of Texarkana, approached me in the Arkansas House of Representatives, and like a father to a son, began talking to me about a message from my parents informing me that my little brother Sammy was dying, and for me to come home at once. Several members of the House of Representatives closed in about me, and spoke words of comfort, and I will never forget them. Among them were Judge Louis Josephs, Judge W. J. Waggoner, Major Thomas H. Rogers, Ex-Governor Dan W. Jones, Monroe Smith, Joel Belote, Walter Pope, Oscar Ellis, John P. Woods, Claud Rankin, Harvey G. Combs, Cleo Harper, Louis K. Sawyer, and Tom Wilson, whose friendship for the past forty-one years has meant a lot to me and many people over the state of Arkansas.

I walked out of the front entrance of the Arkansas House of Rep-

representatives chamber, and down the staircase to the floor below, and went into the Governor's office. There I talked with two good personal friends, Governor Charles H. Brough and his secretary, C. Hamilton Moses, who gave me much advice and encouragement. A few hours later, by train, I arrived at my home town, Magazine, Arkansas, and was soon at the bedside of my dying little brother. He was in a death coma, and gripped in his small hand was the watch and chain I had given him. Sammy was the namesake of his uncle, Judge Samuel A. Conner of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Judge Conner was the namesake of his Uncle, Doctor Samuel Conner, M. D., pioneer physician and surgeon of East Tennessee.

My father, before his marriage to my mother, was for a few months a clerk in the pioneer store of Julius Baer of old Magazine, Arkansas. My father bought his wedding suit at Mr. Baer's store. Mr. Baer mover from old Magazine to the city of Fort Smith, Arkansas, where he assisted in founding the Boston Store of that city. Later, he moved to Saint Louis, where he founded The Grand Leader department store, the firm of Stix, Baer and Fuller and other firms, and became one of the greatest and wealthiest merchants of America.

Doctor John Rice, M. D., of Tennessee, a first cousin of my father, visited in the home of my parents at Magazine, Arkansas, during the year 1919. Doctor Rice had in his possession the old family bible of my great grandparents, David Rice and Martha Herndon Brooks Rice, and the family bible of my great great grandparents, James Brooks and Elizabeth Watkins Brooks. These old bibles which contained many records of births, deaths, and marriages and other information about my forefathers and their family connections, were heired by descendants of Doctor Rice, who passed away several years ago.

A man beloved by me in my memories is Doctor E. P. Aldrich, D. D. noted Baptist preacher and leader, who for many years has been a resident of Nashville, Tennessee. In the year 1915, when I was fifteen years of age, and a page in the Arkansas House of Representatives, Doctor Aldrich was pastor of The Emanuel Baptist Church of the city of Little Rock. I was baptised by Doctor Aldrich, and became a member of this church.

Three of my writing efforts appreciated the most are "Jesus, the Most Beloved Man," an editorial, "The Old Homestead," a poem, and "A Message To Canada." My editorial about Jesus was read with favor in America and foreign countries, and I received several hundred letters from citizens of North America and foreign lands commending me for being its author. Among the citizens were noted religious leaders of all faiths. I also received several hundred letters of appreciation for my poem, "The Old Homestead." My article, "A Message to Canada," which appeared in the columns of a leading Canadian newspaper with an editorial by the editor commending it, brought me hundreds of complimentary letters from Canada, The United States, and England. U. S. Senator William J. Fulbright, and Congressman Brooks Hays had it to appear in the columns of The Congressional Record, and this brought me many more letters from citizens throughout America. For my many good personal friends, and for my millions of friends I have never met personally, who have read my writings and heard them by radio, I am highly appreciative.

I was born October 4, 1899, at the farm home of my parents one mile Northeast of the town of new Magazine, Arkansas. Four months before my birth my father bought the farm from the heirs of Patten Lusk, whose wife was a first cousin of my grandmother, Suzan Lane Harwell Conner. A few months after I was born, my parents moved from their farm home to the new town of Magazine, and our home was located in the old Magazine sector. Across the street from our home was a large two story frame building, the only store building left standing after the pioneer town of old Magazine, had been moved three-fourths of a mile South to a newly constructed railroad line. The building was the property of Doctor James A. Keith, M. D., pioneer physician and surgeon,

land owner, planter, and business man. Bosse Jones owned and operated a grocery in this building. He and his wife, Aunt Ide, were my neighbors. Mrs. Jones' grandmother Denman was also a neighbor. I knew them as "Uncle Boss," "Aunt Ide," and "Granny Denman."

I will never forget my slipping across the street from my home to Uncle Bosse's store, and his giving me a stick of candy, and Aunt Ide bringing a pioneer talking machine to our home for our entertainment. I distinctly remember the large horn from which the music and human voices came, and the round cylinder records. My curiosity was greatly aroused, and so was that of my brother, R. D. Cravens, two years and four months older than me, and for the past thirty years a business man of Oklahoma City. Granny Denman smoked an old time clay pipe. She would often take me on her knee as she smoked. Watching her smoke her pipe was of much interest to me.

Other neighbors were Mrs. Laura McInturff, widow of pioneer attorney, Daily McInturff, and daughter of Doctor James A. Keith, M. D., and sister of Mrs. Mattie Edwards, formerly a cashier and a director of the Citizens Bank of Booneville, Arkansas; Uncle Sol Corley, commonly known as the greatest jokester and prankster of Western Arkansas; Mrs. Rhett Blanton and daughter Mattie. Mrs. Blanton was a widow, and the daughter of Doctor Elkins, M. D., pioneer durggist; Doctor Crow, M. D. and family; Colonel Scott and wife, and two children named Dee and Dora. Dora is the wife of Dr. Rose, M. D., of Fort Smith, and Attorney Jack Rose of that city is their son; Mrs. Kate Martin, widow of Doctor Martin, M. D., and the grandmother of Sam Peck, owner and manager of The Sam Peck Hotel of the city of Little Rock; W. H. Price and family; Mr. Price was known as the strongest man physically in Western Arkansas; Frank Lee, merchant, and family; W. J. Robertson and family. General Elgan C. Robertson, President of the First National Bank of Marianna, Arkansas, was a member of this family. His father, W. J. Robertson was a realtor. William Moon and wife Mattie Moon and family. My grandfather, Captain Asbury B. Conner and his first wife, Elizabeth Tyler Maysey Conner, reared Mrs. Mattie Moon and her sister, Mrs. Georgia (Noah) Moon in Tennessee. They were orphans and their family name was Craighead, and their mother was a Conner, and a first cousin of my grandfather Conner. Their parents died when they were small children. Their husbands, William and Noah Moon, were brothers, and the sons of Reverend Moon, noted minister of the gospel of East Tennessee. Thomas Moon, prominent physician and surgeon of Eastern Oklahoma, was the son of William and Mattie Craighead Moon; my grandfather, Captain Asbury B. Conner who was the Mayor of the town of Magazine; my grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Randolph Cravens; Colonel Pinkney Anderson and family. Colonel Anderson was a planter, and his wife was the daughter of Judge Ellington, noted pioneer Arkansas judge. And many other good neighbors I well remember.

I am a namesake of Doctor John McGinty, M. D., and his wife Johnnie Park McGinty who at their deaths were citizens of the city of Fort Smith. Doctor and Mrs. McGinty were next door neighbors of my parents for several years when they were citizens of Sebastian County, Arkansas. In my files I am permanently keeping a letter for posterity. The letter was written to me by Otto Reyburn, noted writer and editor of The Ozark Guide of Eureka Springs, Arkansas. Mr. Reyburn in his letter stated he believed in time some of my tales would become literary classics, and I am very proud of the letter.

Persons desiring copies of this publication can obtain them by writing to:

JOHN PARK CRAVENS

Room 31, County Court House

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